

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /074 W

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R 121033Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5039

IMQO RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 5266

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL VIENTIANE 5206

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, LA

SUBJ: SOUVANNA REPORTEDLY CANCELS PLAN TO VISIT FRANCE WITH KING

1. PRIME MINISTER'S SON, MANGKHALA SOUVANNA PHOUMA, CALLED ME LATE AFTERNOON TO SAY THAT HIS FATHER HAD ARRIVED THAT MORNING FROM LUANG PRABANG VERY TIRED AND HAD NOT EVEN COME DOWN TO THE OFFICE. HE WOULD THEREFORE NOT BE ABLE TO SEE ME BEFORE I LEFT. MANGKHALA WENT ON TO STRESS THAT HE HIMSELF WOULD NOT BE GOING TO PARIS, INFERRING THAT HIS FATHER ALSO WOULD NOT ACCOMPANY THE KING AS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED. STILL ACCORDING TO MANGKHALA, THE KING WILL NOW BE LEAVING FOR PARIS ON SEPTEMBER 2.

2. FOR PARIS: MANGKHALA ASKED MARK PRATT TO TELL HIS WIFE, PRINCESS OUANA, TO REMAIN THERE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. I AM ARRIVING PARIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, AND ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING PRATT THAT WEEK.

3. COMMENT: WHILE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WAS VEILED, CONFIDENTIAL

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WE BELIEVE THAT IT CONFIRMS EARLIER RUMORS THAT SOUVANNA

WILL NOT LEAVE THE COUNTRY AT THE SAME TIME AS THE KING
BECAUSE OF THE WIDESPREAD FEAR THAT ONCE THE TWO WERE
OUT OF THE COUNTRY THEY WOULD NOT RETURN. THIS IS
THE BEST EVIDENCE OF THE VOLATILITY OF THE PRESENT
CLIMATE OF PUBLIC OPINION IN LAOS.

CHAPMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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